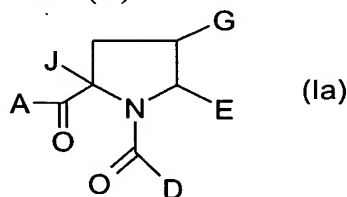


**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) Compounds of Formula (Ia) :



wherein:

A represents hydroxy;

D represents aryl or heteroaryl;

E represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl;

G represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, OR<sup>1</sup>, SR<sup>1</sup>, C(O)NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>H, C(O)R<sup>4</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>, NHC(O)R<sup>4</sup>, NHCO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, NHC(O)NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, nitro, cyano, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl;

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, arylalkyl, or heteroarylalkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl; or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5 or 6 membered saturated cyclic group;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl; or R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5 or 6 membered saturated cyclic group; and

J represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, heterocyclalkyl, arylalkyl or heteroarylalkyl;

provided that i) E and G are not both hydrogen; and

ii) the compound is other than

4-ethenyl-1-(2-nitrobenzoyl)-2,2-pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, diethyl ester;

1-(2-aminobenzoyl)-4-(1-hydroxyethyl)-2,2-pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, diethyl ester;

4-(1-hydroxyethyl)-1-(2-nitrobenzoyl)-2,2-pyrrolidinedicarboxylic acid, diethyl ester;

and salts, solvates and esters thereof; provided that when A is esterified to form -OR where R is selected from straight or branched chain alkyl, aralkyl, aryloxyalkyl, or aryl, then R is other than *tert*-butyl.

2. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-fluoromethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-hydroxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-hydroxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-allyloxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-propyloxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-isopropenyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-isopropyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-bromo-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-chloro-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methyl-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2R,4R,5R)-2-Benzyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2R,4R,5R)-2-Benzyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(pyrazin-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(pyrazin-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(5-methyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(5-methyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(2-chloro-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(2-methoxy-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-((methylthio)methyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;  
*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-((methanesulfonyl)methyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2R,4S,5R)-2-Benzyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2R,4S,5R)-2-Benzyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1-hydroxyethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-allyloxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-propyloxymethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-cyanomethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethyl-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(pyrid-2-yl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4R,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-(1-methoxyethyl)-5-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-ethoxymethyl-5-(5-methylisoxazol-3-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(5-methoxymethyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

*rel*-(2S,4S,5R)-2-Isobutyl-1-(3-methoxy-4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl)-4-methoxymethyl-5-(thien-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

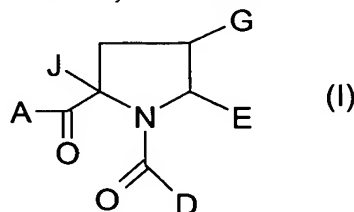
and salts, solvates and esters, and individual enantiomers thereof where appropriate.

3. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 1 wherein D represents optionally substituted phenyl.
4. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 3 wherein D represents *para-tert*-butylphenyl optionally further substituted by halo, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy
5. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 1 wherein E represents optionally substituted heteroaryl.
6. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 5 wherein E represents optionally substituted thiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, isoxazolyl and thienyl.
7. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 1 wherein G represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by halo, OR<sup>1</sup>, SR<sup>1</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup> and cyano.
8. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 7 wherein G represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by OR<sup>1</sup>.
9. (currently amended) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~ wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl.
10. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 7 wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl.

11. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 1 wherein J represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, arylalkyl or heteroarylalkyl.

12. (original) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 1, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates thereof.

13. (original) A method of treating or preventing viral infection which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound of Formula (I)



wherein:

A represents hydroxy;

D represents aryl or heteroaryl;

E represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl;

G represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, OR<sup>1</sup>, SR<sup>1</sup>, C(O)NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>H, C(O)R<sup>4</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>, NHC(O)R<sup>4</sup>, NHCO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, NHC(O)NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, nitro, cyano, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl;

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, arylalkyl, or heteroarylalkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl; or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5 or 6 membered saturated cyclic group;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl; or R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5 or 6 membered saturated cyclic group; and

J represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, heterocyclalkyl, arylalkyl or heteroarylalkyl;

and salts, solvates and esters thereof; provided that when A is esterified to form -OR where R is selected from straight or branched chain alkyl, aralkyl, aryloxyalkyl, or aryl, then R is other than *tert*-butyl.

14. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13 which involves inhibiting HCV.

15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13 in which the compound is administered in an oral dosage form.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

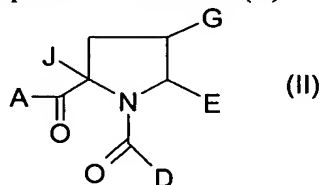
18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of Formula (Ia) as defined in claim 1 in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

22. (original) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula (I) as defined in claim 13, comprising treatment of a compound of Formula (II)



in which A is alkoxy, and D, E, G and J are as defined for Formula (I), with an acid.

23. (original) A process as claimed in claim 22 in which A is *tert*-butoxy.

24. (new) A compound of Formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 8 wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl.